

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 SAM-01

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1189
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AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T NICOSIA 0675

TO THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT CY US OVIP
SUBJECT: PROTEST TO GOC

REF: SECTO 179

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR REFERENCED INSTRUCTION, IN SEPARATE MEETINGS ON FEBRUARY 18 WITH ACTING MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PATSALIDES (WHO TAKES OVER FOREIGN AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO IN ADDITION TO HIS OWN AS MINISTER OF FINANCE IN CHRISTOPHIDES' ABSENCE) AND OFFICER ACTING IN CHARGE OF FOREIGN MINISTRY PELAGHIAS, I PROTESTED UNFOUNDED ACCUSATION THAT USG INVOLVED IN TURKISH-CYPRIOT DECLARATION OF FEDERATED STATE. WITH BOTH I ASKED THAT USG VIEWS BE CONVEYED TO PRESIDENT MAKARIOS. PATSALIDES WAS SYMPATHETIC TO OUR LEGITIMATE CONCERN AND SAID NO ONE AT SENIOR LEVEL IN GOC BELIEVED THIS. IT WAS, HOWEVER, WIDELY BELIEVED BY THE PUBLIC THANKS TO AN IRRESPONSIBLE PRESS. I REQUESTED THAT (A) GOC AVOID STATEMENTS OR ACTIONS LENDING CREDENCE TO THE ACCUSATION; (B) GOC USE INFLUENCE WITH THE PRESS TO REBUT THIS CANARD AND MODERATE ITS VIOLENTLY ANTI-AMERICAN TONE. I NOTED YOUR VERY STRONG EFFORTS TO BE HELPFUL AND CONCLUDED THAT IF US ROLE WERE TO CONTINUE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR INTENTION AND DESIRE, IRRESPONSIBLE ATTACKS ON US MUST CEASE.

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2. PATSALIDES TOOK NOTES AND PROMISED TO PURSUE.

3. PELAGHIAS WAS ACTIVELY HELPFUL. HE PROMISED CALL IN EDITORS OF THREE NEWSPAPERS PARTICULARLY RESPONSIVE TO GOC WISHES AND TO INSTRUCT PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER WORK ON SOME OF THE OTHERS. PELAGHIAS THOUGHT WE WOULD SEE THE FIRST RESULTS BY FEBRUARY 19 AND HOPED GOC'S BEHIND-THE-SCENES ACTION WOULD TEMPER NEW DEMONSTRATIONS SCHEDULED FOR THAT DAY.

CRAWFORD

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NNN

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